

## HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 752

By Harrison

A RESOLUTION to honor the memory of Rev. Eugene "Gene" W. Whited of Rogersville.

WHEREAS, the members of this General Assembly were greatly saddened to learn of the death of Rev. Eugene "Gene" W. Whited; and

WHEREAS, Rev. Whited was an exemplary public servant and consummate professional who worked assiduously to improve the quality of life for his fellow citizens in numerous capacities; and

WHEREAS, Gene Whited was born in the tiny town of Appalachia, Virginia, on July 25, 1924, to Robert and Bessie Whited; and

WHEREAS, a decorated Army veteran of World War II, Rev. Whited stormed the beaches of Normandy, France, on D-Day, earning the Bronze Star and the Purple Heart for bravery when he and a fellow soldier risked their lives transporting wounded men from the battle lines during intense enemy fire in the hills of Europe; and

WHEREAS, despite heavy rainfall and nearly-impassable roads, the two men returned again and again to the war zone, never ceasing until they had moved all the injured men to safety; and

WHEREAS, Rev. Whited previously served faithfully as Pastor of Beech Creek Baptist Church, where he modeled his love for faith and family and, more recently, he was an active and devout member of East Rogersville Baptist Church; and

WHEREAS, Gene Whited was a member of the Veterans of Foreign Wars VFW Post 9543 and the Overton Lodge No. 5 F. & A.M., and he was a 32nd degree Scottish Rite Mason; and

WHEREAS, his numerous accomplishments aside, he was also deeply devoted to his family and he always endeavored to remain true to family values of the highest order; and

WHEREAS, Rev. Whited was preceded in death by his parents and his brother and sister-in-law, Harry and Pauline Whited; and

WHEREAS, he was married to the love of his life for sixty years, Dorothy Stines Whited, and the couple's blessed union produced three daughters and sons-in-law, Louise and Patrick Clouse, Sandy and Bobby Harrell, and Shela and Bob Davis; grandchildren, Mark Seal, Matthew Seal, Michael Seal, Rick Stuffle, Tara Jones, Charity Waters, Erica Foster, Katy Davis, and Christopher Clouse; and thirteen great-grandchildren; and

WHEREAS, Rev. Whited is also survived by one sister, Deloria Hickman; and

WHEREAS, Gene Whited leaves behind an indelible legacy of integrity and probity in public life, compassion and loyalty in private life, and diligence and dedication in all his chosen endeavors; and

WHEREAS, it is fitting that this General Assembly should pause to remember the bountiful life of this exceptional public servant and human being; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED SEVENTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, that we honor the memory of Rev. Eugene "Gene" W. Whited, reflecting fondly upon his impeccable character and his stalwart commitment to living the examined life with courage and conviction.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that we express our sympathy and offer our condolences to the family of Rev. Whited.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.